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Dear Friend:

At the end of this month, I will be holding several meetings throughout South Dakota to discuss Social Security, and I would like to invite you to attend. **The future of Social Security is an important issue that affects all South Dakotans**, and I would like an opportunity to share my thoughts with you about the future of the program, and to hear your thoughts about Social Security and retirement.

Over the next half century, the changing demographics of our nation will stretch the Social Security system beyond its existing financing capacity, and something must be done in the long-run to ensure that the program is available for future generations. I believe that some changes will be needed, but there are some fundamental principles that we must adhere to in **preserving this program for future retirees**:

- Changes should **not result in massive amounts of new borrowing**, and should **not** create an environment where our **children inherit trillions of dollars of new debt**, and
- Changes **must address the long-term solvency of the Social Security Trust Fund**, without chipping away at the fundamental **guaranteed benefit** upon which this program was founded.

I am committed to improving the long-term outlook of the Social Security program, and I want to work with the President and leaders in Congress to develop real solutions that will address the program's solvency. **Social Security has been one of the most successful federal programs in this nation's history, and we need to protect its future.** As the debate moves forward on this issue, I would like to share my thoughts with you about the current debate, as well as hear your views.

**Please join me to discuss Social Security at one of several sessions in the state:**

**Mitchell:** Tuesday, March 29, 7-8:30 pm, Dakota Wesleyan University, Sherman Center and Wagner Chapel, 1200 W University Ave.

**Yankton:** Wednesday, March 30, 11-12:30 pm, Avera Sacred Heart Majestic Bluffs, 2111 West 11<sup>th</sup>

**Sioux Falls:** Wednesday, March 30, 3:30-5 pm, Ramkota Hotel (Exhibit Hall), 3200 W. Maple St.

**Watertown:** Thursday, March 31, 10-11:30 am, Watertown Senior Citizens Center, 301 East Kemp Ave.

**Aberdeen:** Thursday, March 31, 3:30-5pm, Strode Activity Center, Presentation College, 1500 N. Main

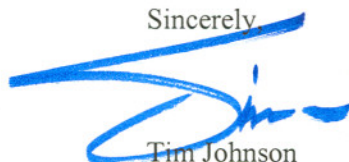
**Rapid City:** Friday, April 1, 1-2:30 pm, American Legion Post Home, 818 E. St. Patrick Street

Should you have any questions about these events, please call my office toll-free at 1-800-537-0025.

Also, if you would like more information about Social Security, or would like to sign my citizen petition to oppose the privatization of the program, please visit my website at <http://johnson.senate.gov>.

I look forward to seeing you at one of these upcoming sessions!

Sincerely,



Tim Johnson  
United States Senator